

PO Box 1015  
Franklin, LA 70538

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## CAMPAIGN FINANCE DIVISION

☒ **WAIVER REQUEST**  
☐ **RECONSIDERATION REQUEST**

**DATE: 7/26/2021**  
**DOCKET #:**

### FILER INFORMATION

Name: Blaise W. Smith  
Office: Sheriff  
Parish: ST. MARY  
Election Date: 1/1/3000  
Level of Office: District

### REPORT INFORMATION

Name of Report: ANN2020  
Original Due Date: 2/18/2021  
Date Filed: 2/23/2021  
Activity Receipts: \$30,397.00  
Expenditures: \$11,415.05  
Funds at Close of Reporting Period: \$16,508.03

### LATE FEE INFORMATION

Amount of Late Fee: \$300  
Days Late: 5  
Late Fee Order Received: 6/25/2021  
Payment/Waiver Request Due Date: 7/15/2021  
Waiver Request Received: 6/26/2021  
Additional Information Requested:

- Medical
- Financial
- Other

COMMENTS: Candidate mailed in his waiver request and states that he filed the report online electronically on 2/17/21 (NOTE: The 2020 report was NOT filed 2/17/21 the report he was referring to was his 2019 Supplemental filed 2/17/20). He said again on 2/23/21 he filed the report online. He said when he was made aware of the problem he contacted staff to correct any problems at that time. He said he had to get IT to assist him because the online filing was not going through the system at that time.

### OTHER LATE FEE INFORMATION

#### Campaign Finance:

Other Outstanding Reports: No  
Other Outstanding Late Fees: YES  
Prior Late Fees: YES  
Reassessed Late Fees: No

#### Disclosure Statements:

Other Outstanding Late Fees: No  
Prior Late Fees: No

**Blaise W. Smith, Campaign**

P. O. Box 1015  
Franklin, La 70538

June 25, 2021

Attention Louisiana Board of Ethics  
P. O. Box 4368  
Baton Rouge, La 70821

Re: Requesting a Waiver for this Late Fee Assessment Order

To: Whom it May Concern

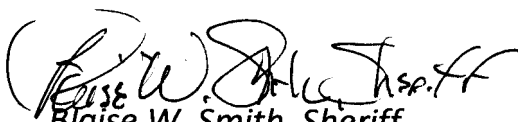
On February 17, 2021, this report was filed with the online, Filed Electronically.

Future	(102) Annual Report	12/17/2019	02/17/2020	LA-87152	02/17/2020	<a href="#">Go to Amendment</a>
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Again, on February 23, 2021 this report was filed with the online, Filed Electronically.

Future	(102) Annual Report	02/18/2020	12/31/2020	LA-96941	02/23/2021	<a href="#">Go to Amendment</a>
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When I was made aware of a problem, contact with the Ethics Board was asked to correct any problems at that time. I spoke with MS Jerri with Campaign Finance, on February 23, 2021 at 1:40 pm she had to get with the IT people to help in the matter, because the online Filing Electronically was not going through the system at that time.

  
Blaise W. Smith, Sheriff  
St. Mary Parish

ETHICS BOARD REGD  
JUN 23 '21 PM 2:55



Ronald Williams <wronald225@gmail.com>

## LEADERS Online: Filing LA-96941 - Blaise Smith

1 message

ethics.louisiana@la.gov <ethics.louisiana@la.gov>  
To: wronald225@gmail.com

Tue, Feb 23, 2021 at 2:15 PM

Filer Name: Blaise Smith

Filer ID: CAN993288

LEADERS Online -- Louisiana Financial Disclosure Filing Acknowledgement

This is to acknowledge the receipt and acceptance of your electronic filing via of Form 102 on the LEADERS Online System.

Your filing was received and accepted by our system on 2/23/2021, and was assigned the Filing ID of: LA-96941.

Please make a note of this, as it will be necessary to refer to this information in the future.

Thank you for using the LEADERS Online System.

[Click here to view the report.](#)

2-23-21 LA Ethics Board  
1:40 PM 205-219-5100  
Jemi  
#96941  
Annual Report Due 2-17-21  
6 Days Late



STATE OF LOUISIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE CIVIL SERVICE  
**LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS**

P. O. BOX 4368  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70821  
(225) 219-5600  
FAX: (225) 381-7271  
1-800-842-6630  
www.ethics.la.gov

June 10, 2021

Blaise W. Smith  
P.O. Box 1015  
Franklin, LA 70538

**CERTIFIED MAIL**

**NO. 70200640000079860685**

**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

RE: Late fee assessment for a future Election  
2020 Annual Campaign Finance Disclosure Report filed 5 days late

Dear Blaise W. Smith:

Enclosed is an assessment of a late fee pursuant to La R.S. 18:1505.4 and La. R.S. 18:1511.4.1. Please submit a check or money order in the amount of \$300 payable to the Treasurer of the State of Louisiana to P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821. **Please note that late fees can only be paid by the candidate or by his campaign.**

**You have 20 days from receipt of this letter to dispute this assessment. You may elect to do either or both of the following:**

1. You may submit your request for a waiver to the attention of the Louisiana Board of Ethics.

Waivers are handled by the Ethics Board. The Board of Ethics may reduce, suspend, or decline to waive a late fee assessment based on the cause shown by the person, candidate, or political committee. If you submit a request for a waiver of the late fee to the Board of Ethics, your request should contain details as to why, in your opinion, you have good cause why your report was not timely filed. Also, if you would like to appear before the Board of Ethics in connection with your request, you should state that in your letter. The request should be submitted to the attention of the Board of Ethics at the following address: P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or fax at (225) 381-7271.

2. You may appeal **the assessment** directly to the Ethics Adjudicatory Board (EAB).

Appeals to the EAB are proceedings before a three judge panel. The determination is made regarding whether the person, candidate, or political committee was required to file the report and whether the report was filed late. **Mitigating factors are not considered during an EAB proceeding. The EAB does not have the authority to reduce, suspend, or waive a late fee assessment.** If you choose to appeal the assessment to the EAB, you should submit your request for an appeal to the attention of the Executive Secretary of the Louisiana Board of Ethics at P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or fax at (225) 381-7271.

If you timely submit a waiver request or appeal, your name will not be posted on the website pending the result of your appeal. Furthermore, if you request an appearance, you will be notified of the place and time prior to the meeting.

If you do not **pay or dispute** the assessment of the late fee within 20 days from the receipt of this letter, the matter will be forwarded to the Attorney General's Office to pursue collection. If the matter is forwarded to the Attorney General's Office for collection, you may be responsible for all additional costs incurred. Additionally, late fees not paid by the due date will be posted on the agency website.

***You should be aware that unpaid campaign finance fines, fees or penalties may have an adverse effect on your ability to run for public office in the future, as the Board of Ethics will object to your future qualifications for candidacy for public office pursuant to La. R.S. 18:491 and R.S. 18:492.***

Sincerely,

**LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS**

**Melissa Horn**

**STATE OF LOUISIANA LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS**  
**acting in its capacity as the**  
**SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE ON CAMPAIGN FINANCE DISCLOSURE**

**In Re:       Blaise W. Smith**  
**A Future Election**

**LATE FEE ASSESSMENT ORDER**

**WHEREAS**, Blaise W. Smith, in his capacity as a candidate for Sheriff in a future election was required to file campaign finance reports pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1484.


**WHEREAS**, La. R.S. 18:1505.1 provides that it is a violation of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act to fail to timely file campaign finance reports.

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1495.4E, Blaise W. Smith was required to file an Annual Report by February 18, 2021. Blaise W. Smith filed the report on February 23, 2021 and was 5 days late.

**WHEREAS**, La. R.S. 18:1505.4A(2)(a)(ii) provides that an automatic late fee of \$60 per day (not to exceed \$2,000) be assessed against Blaise W. Smith for this late filing.

**ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED** that a late fee of \$300 is assessed against Blaise W. Smith for failure to timely file his campaign finance disclosure report.

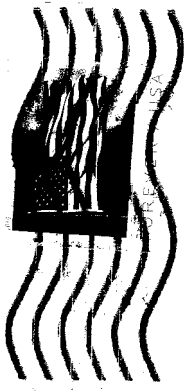
**ORDER** signed on the 10th day of June 2021 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

  
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Angela Newsom, Director  
Campaign Finance & Lobbying Division

Blaise W. Smith, Sheriff  
P.O. Box 1015  
Franklin, La. 70538

BATON ROUGE LA 707

26 JUN 2021 PM 3 L



Louisiana Board of Ethics  
P.O. Box 4368  
Baton Rouge, La. 70821

70821-4368

